

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 12, 2010

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DOE Honors Riverside for International Clean Energy Partnership

Riverside, Calif. – The U.S. Department of Energy recently awarded the City of Riverside with its 2010 Annual Award for Sustainable Development – Energy, for its effective international city-to-city partnership that has helped to advance the use of clean energy and encourage innovations in sustainability.

The award was given as a result of Riverside's efforts to launch the Southern California Research Initiative for Solar Energy (SC-RISE).

SC-RISE is the result of a four-party agreement signed in 2007 by Reza Abbaschian, dean of UCR's Bourns College of Engineering, Ron Loveridge, mayor of Riverside, and representatives from Riverside's sister city Sendai, Japan and Sendai's Tohoku University.

Launched in 2009 with major support from the city of Riverside, SC-RISE harnesses and brings together the resources of four major players engaged innovative solar energy research. In addition to promoting collaborative clean energy projects, the Riverside-Sendai agreement also includes an academic research and student exchange program between UCR and Tohoku University.

"We are a city of arts and innovation," said Loveridge. "SC-RISE is exactly the type of cooperative project that I challenged UCR, Tohoku University, Sendai, and Riverside to make happen when we signed the four-party agreement. We are proud to be recognized for our efforts to make cutting-edge solar science and technology available on an international scale."

Matthew Barth, facility director of SC-RISE, said the sister city relationship has provided momentum for long overdue sustainability goals. "I can't imagine a more productive city/university relationship in one hemisphere, let alone two," Barth said.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 106,000 metered electric customers and 64,000 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com

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